

## The Effects of Off-Road Vehicles

What do you want to see when you visit Ozark National Scenic Riverways? You Decide.





## Harmful Effects of Off-Road Vehicles

- Damage to native vegetation
- Separation of forest ecosystems
- ♦ Increase in soil erosion
- Water pollution
- ♦ Disruption of wildlife migration
- Damage to sensitive ripararian areas and river banks.
- Creation of roadways into sensitive habitats which can harass, stress, and kill

- ♦ Spread of noxious weeds
- Destruction of significant archeological and historical sites
- Addition of sediments and contaminants to waterways, which can negatively affect habitat for fish and other aquatic life
- Depriving others of the serenity and enjoyment of nature
- Degradation of OZARK's scenic and pristine natural areas



Invasive Spotted Knapweed

## How is the Park Combating This Issue?

Illegal traces and trails spread throughout the 80,000 acres of the park. Once an illegal trace is made, the footprint often encourages additional illegal traffic. Park employees are currently installing carsonite posts, gates, cables and boulders at entrances to post legal traces with the park.

Closure will prevent further damage while allowing the negatively impacted areas to rehabilitate. Rangers are strictly enforcing regulations pertaining to off-road violations to deter illegal activity. Violators are subject to fines and/or seizure of property.

## You Can Help

Ozark National Scenic Riverways needs your help protecting the natural and cultural resources from illegal off-road travel. We all share the privilege of enjoying our public lands and water. We also share the responsibility to protect those resources. You can make the difference. We ask that park visitors avoid posted areas and stay on

on designates routes. Legally licensed vehicles continue to be allowed on designated park roads, county and state highways. Please join us as we continue to protect and preserve Ozark National Scenic Riverways for future generations.